

In the Specification

The English translation of the European patent application, which forms the priority document, contains a significant number of typographical and spelling errors, translation errors, and faulty English. The number and nature of the amendments that are necessary to correct these errors renders it difficult to amend the application using the procedures set forth in 37 CFR 1.121. Accordingly, the applicants elect to file a Substitute Specification under 37 CFR 1.125(b), as discussed in MPEP 608.01(q). Attached to this Preliminary Amendment, as Exhibit A, is a marked-up copy of the specification of the application, as filed, showing all amendments to the specification including any matter which is added to or deleted from the specification.

The applicants and applicants' counsel specifically assert that no new matter is included in this Substitute Specification.

Attached as Exhibit B is the Substitute Specification, which corresponds to the marked-up specification rewritten without the marked up changes. Thus, Exhibit B should be the Specification that is reviewed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.